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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY	USSR (Uzbek SSR)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Construction of Residential Buildings with Basement Shelters in Tashkent	DATE DISTR.	3 July 1961
		NO. PAGES	1
		REFERENCES	
DATE OF INFO.			50X1-HUM
PLACE & DATE ACQ.			50X1-HUM

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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- a. A two-page report on the construction of 60 residential buildings in Tashkent with basement shelters. The report includes details on shelter dimensions, construction materials, and the ventilation system. 50X1-HUM
- b. A three-page report on the construction of an apartment house in Tashkent with a basement shelter. The report includes information on structural details and sketches. 50X1-HUM

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STATE	X	ARMY	#	X	NAVY		X	AIR	#	X	NSA		X	OCR		X	NIC	X		
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#").																				

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

FIELD INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR (Uzbek SSR)

REPORT

SUBJECT New Residential Buildings in Tashkent
Constructed with Air Raid Shelters

DATE OF REPORT

4 - MAY 1961

NO. PAGES 2

REFERENCES

DATE OF
INFO.
PLACE &
DATE ACQ.

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1.

a team of fitters and mechanics, about 60 residential buildings were constructed in the area between ulitsa Chilanazar and ulitsa Kazyrvat² in Tashkent.

2. Of these buildings 40 were 100 meters by 12 meters by 14 meters in size, and the other 20 were 40 meters by 12 meters by 14 meters. They were all four stories high. As soon as construction was completed, the houses were occupied by people who definitely were above the labor class.³

3. The basements of these buildings were built so that they could be used as air raid shelters in case of war. Only one fourth of the basement of each building was left to be used as a mess hall for the everyday use of the inhabitants. The rest of the basement was divided into several compartments of different sizes according to the structure of the building. The average size of each such compartment was about five meters by five meters by three and a half meters.

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4. The walls of the basement air raid shelters were constructed of cement and tiles, similar to the construction of the rest of the buildings, but the inside walls were covered with a coating of tar approximately one centimeter thick. The compartments were connected with doors of steel about 12 millimeters thick, insulated with rubber around the edge, made especially to exclude the possibility of air leaks. The shelters were entered from outdoors.

5. Directly behind the entrance door of each shelter against the wall was installed a ventilation system called G. U.,⁴

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This system consisted of an engine of about three horsepower and two small barrels used as air filters installed one above the other and connected by pipes. The entire system was connected with one ventilation tube about 20 centimeters in diameter running through all the compartments of the shelter and exiting outside the shelter. Each of the two barrels containing the filter was about one meter high and 60 centimeters in diameter. The electric motor installed in the wall was about 25 centimeters square.

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6. Before the completed building was to be inspected by the "Inspection Committee for New Construction" the ventilation system was checked by a major of the Soviet Army (dressed in civilian clothes). He checked the ventilation with a device that looked like a U-curved meter. One end of the meter was connected into the ventilation system before the engine was started. At the other end the officer poured about 30 grams of pure white alcohol plus a few drops of ink from his fountain pen. If the meter read 25 or 27 degrees when the motor was turned on, the ventilation system was considered satisfactory. If not, the entire shelter was checked by the workers, and more tar was added where necessary.
7. The ventilation system of these air raid shelters had no special source of electric power or individual generator. The system was connected to the main electric line of the building by a wire. If the main switch was turned off, the whole building including the shelter ventilation system was left without electric power. Electricity was supplied from the main electric lines in the street.

1. Comment: This is probably identical with Stroitel'no-Montazhnoye Upravleniye (Construction and Installation Directorate).

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2. Comment: This is in the Frunzenskiy Rayon in the southwestern part of Tashkent.

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3. Comment: about 500 similar buildings were planned for construction, making this the best and newest residential area in Tashkent.

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4. Comment: Similar ventilation systems were installed in older buildings in Tashkent which had basements that could be turned into air raid shelters.

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FIELD INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Uzbek SSR)

REPORT

12 MAY 1961

SUBJECT Air Raid Shelter in an Apartment
House in Tashkent

DATE OF REPORT

NO. PAGES 3

REFERENCES

DATE OF
INFO.
PLACE &
DATE ACQ.

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1. In September 1958 the SMU No. 5 (Stroitel'no-Montazhnoye Upravleniye No. 5, Construction-Assembly Directorate No. 5) began to construct four apartment houses in the Takhtapul' area of Tashkent.

The buildings were about 500 meters north of the last stop of Streetcar No. 2 on ulitsa Sabira Rakhimova. One apartment house contained 18 apartments, another 23 apartments, the third 28 apartments, and the fourth 38 apartments. The apartments were of two types: one consisting of two rooms with kitchen and bathroom, and the other consisting of four rooms, a kitchen and a bathroom.

2. Only the apartment building with 28 apartments had a basement air raid shelter. This building was 32 meters long, 12 meters wide, and two stories high. The walls were of brick 30 centimeters (one and a half bricks) thick. The roof had a wooden frame and was covered with tile (shifer). The height of the rooms was 2.60 meters, and the ceilings were 20 centimeters thick.

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Tenants were scheduled to move into the building on 1 January 1961

3. The central heating system for this apartment building was located in an underground cellar next to the building. The reason for this arrangement was that the central heating system was intended to serve the next apartment building as well as this one. The central heating system was to be fueled by natural gas.

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4. The air raid shelter occupied the entire basement of the apartment building. The shelter had two entrances, which led down from the two halls of the building (see point 1 on Sketch No. 1). [redacted] there was no outside exit to the shelter. [redacted] The basement was divided into 14 rooms, 13 rooms of equal size and one room twice the size of the others. All the walls, both the outside walls and the inside partitions, were made of concrete 50 centimeters thick. On each end of the basement was an opening, from around which the earth had been removed (see point 2 in Sketch No. 1). [redacted] these openings were intended for the ventilation equipment that would be installed. Each inside wall of the shelter had a hole 18 centimeters square next to the ceiling. This hole was also intended for ventilation purposes. [redacted]
5. Each room in the shelter had at least two doors, which were installed in an unsystematic pattern. The doors were prefabricated metal doors in an iron frame, with a total weight of 200 to 250 kilograms. The doors were double doors i.e., two doors hung parallel to each other. The edges of the doors were covered with rubber to make them airtight.
6. Each room in the shelter had a water faucet and a sink, and there was an electric outlet for a light bulb in the ceiling. There were no toilets in the basement and no central heating radiators.
7. The ceiling of the shelter (see Sketch No. 2) was 2.80 meters above the concrete floor. The ceiling was supported by 14 or 15 reinforced concrete beams running crosswise (see point 1 in Sketch No. 2). The beams were 25 by 35 centimeters and were reinforced with six steel rods, each 20 millimeters in diameter (see point 5 in Sketch No. 2). Every 12 centimeters the six rods were fastened together by a steel band 12 millimeters in diameter, which was fastened around the rods. Between the beams there was a layer of reinforced concrete 20 centimeters thick (see point 2 in Sketch No. 2). The concrete was reinforced with steel rods 12 millimeters in diameter set in a checkerboard pattern, forming 12-centimeter squares. The ends of the rods running between the beams were welded to the bands which fastened the six rods together. The ends of the rods running in the opposite direction parallel to the beams were imbedded in the concrete of the outside walls of the shelter. The reinforced concrete used in the construction of the shelter was made at the construction site and was not prefabricated.
8. The floor of the first-floor apartments was constructed above the ceiling of the shelter as follows: Wooden beams 17 by eight centimeters were laid every 75 centimeters. Between the wooden beams were placed boards four centimeters thick, and above them was a layer of slag about 10 centimeters thick (see point 3 in Sketch No. 2). The floor was made of boards four centimeters thick, which rested on the wooden beams (see point 4 in Sketch No. 2).
9. [redacted] the supervisor of the construction (prorab) paid considerable attention to the quality of the construction work on the air raid shelter and did not depart from the specifications. In the construction of the apartment building itself later his attitude was different, and he disregarded specifications continually.
10. Attached are [redacted] sketches of the layout of the air raid shelter and the construction of the ceiling of the air raid shelter.

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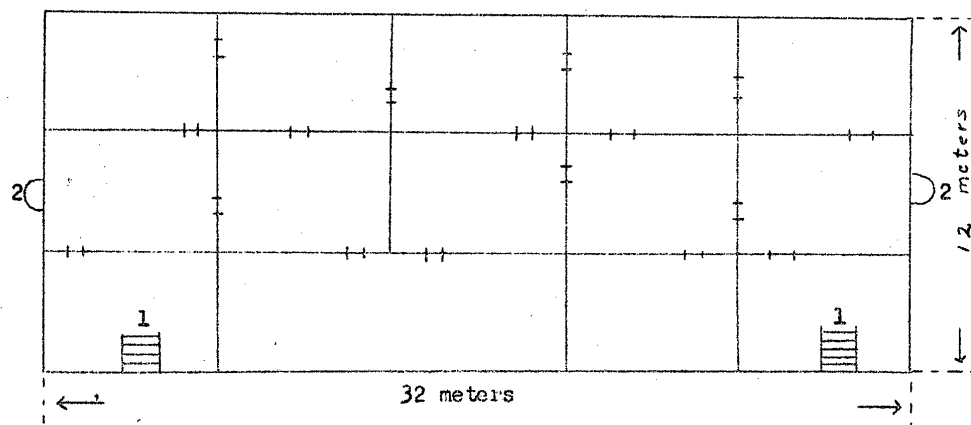
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Sketch No. 1

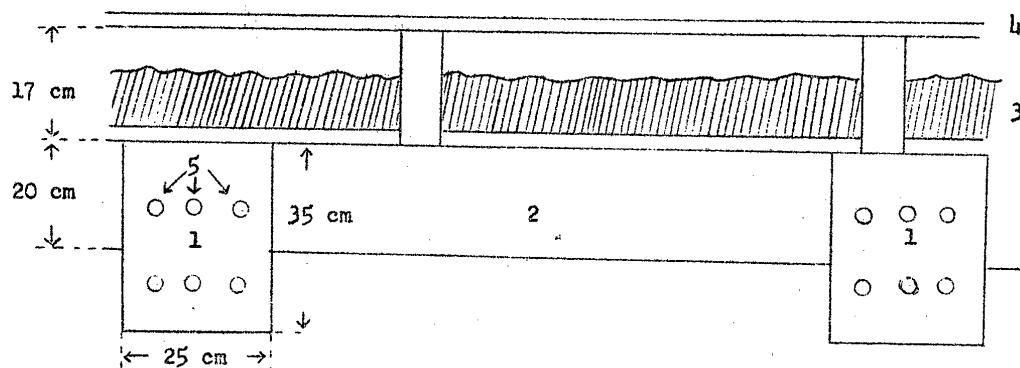
Layout of the Air Raid Shelter
(not to scale) 50X1-HUM



1. Entrances to the shelter
2. Openings for ventilation equipment

Sketch No. 2

The Ceiling of the Air Raid Shelter
(not to scale)



1. Reinforced concrete beams
2. Reinforced concrete
3. Layer of slag
4. Board floor
5. Steel reinforcing rods

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